# CITY OF INDEPENDENCE

2012 Report



### Administration

- Passed a 1% sales tax: ¼ for debt repayment and mill levy support; ¼ building & facility improvements, including park & zoo; ¼ streets & sidewalks and ¼ ADA.
- Received a \$400,000 grant from CDBG to assist with ADA curb ramp project.
- Merger of Fire and EMS with cross training of employees provides more trained personnel to serve citizens in an emergency for less cost.
- Narrowbanded City wide radios to comply with new federal requirements.
- City Manager graduated from Leadership Independence 2012.



# Received bids and started construction of ADA curb ramps with 133 completed in 2012.



#### Administration

- Signed contract with Executime to implement time clock system in 2013 to better monitor overtime.
- Installed vehicle trackers on City vehicles.
- Economic Development
  - Partnered with local industries for expansion: Hackney, Cessna and new railroad equipment remanufacturer.
  - New retail development: Goody's, Hibbett's Sports, True Value and Braum's.

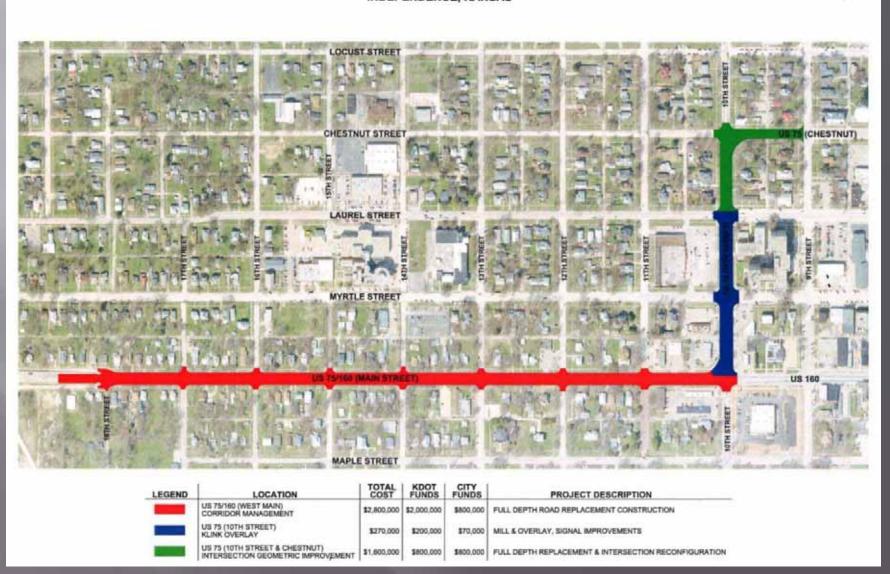
- KU Supervisory training for 33 department heads and supervisors.
- City Manager served on local committees, clubs and organizations; Tourism, Pride, Rotary, ASTRA, MCAC Director Interview Committee, Celebrity Hall of Fame, Chamber Economic Development Committee and Independence Historical Museum & Arts Center member.

#### Administration

- Assistant City Manager served on local committees, clubs and organizations; Co-Chair of Chamber's Diversity Taskforce, Past Co-chair and current member of Pride, Rotary, Chamber's Economic Development Committee, City liaison to Building Supervisory Committee (for management of downtown incubators) and Zoning Administrator to Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals.
- Partnered with KDOT to complete the U.S. 75 Access
   Management Plan, which is required to be eligible for funds for West Main reconstruction in 2013.
- Awarded a KDOT KLINK project on 10<sup>th</sup> from Main to Laurel to be constructed in 2014.
- Awarded a KDOT geometric improvement project for 10<sup>th</sup> and Chestnut intersection to be constructed in 2015.

### **Upcoming Road Improvements**

#### US 75 TRAVEL WAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS INDEPENDENCE, KANSAS



#### Administration



The new entrance sign on East Main was installed in 2012 and a ribbon cutting by the PRIDE Committee and Strike a Pose Contestants occurred on April 13, 2012.

# Planning Commission Board of Appeals Approvals/Denials

3 Rezonings	701-837 Landon Drive (R-1-R-3)[Martin Estates]; 1531 W. Main (M-2-C-2) [American Legion]; 825 S. 19 <sup>th</sup> (M-1-M-2) [Railroad equipment remanufacturing-former Fed-Ex];
6 Conditional Use Permits	1531 W. Main (private club); 720 Washington (photography studio); 704 E. Birch (Daycare); 1717 W. Main (poster panel/billboard sign); 1906 Eisenhower (photography studio); and 309 S. 1 <sup>st</sup> (Daycare).
7 Variances	1608 N. 8th (setback); 1717 W. Main (distance requirements to residential district); 2801 W. Main (exceed number of signs); 501 W. Main (height of detached sign [denied]); 501 W. Main (exceed number of signs); 501 W. Main (exceed distance requirement for an electronic messaging center from residential); 501 W. Main (exceed number of signs [added additional signs after first approval]);
1 Text Amendment	Allowed as a conditional use permit "Photographic studios and services" in a residential district.
1 Plat	Martin Estates Phase II

# Public Safety David Cowan, Public Safety Director

- Safety/Work Comp
- Fire/EMS
  - Building
  - Condemnations/Code Enforcement
- Police
  - Animal Control



# Safety/Work Comp

Received "Gold Star" from KMIT (Work Comp Pool)

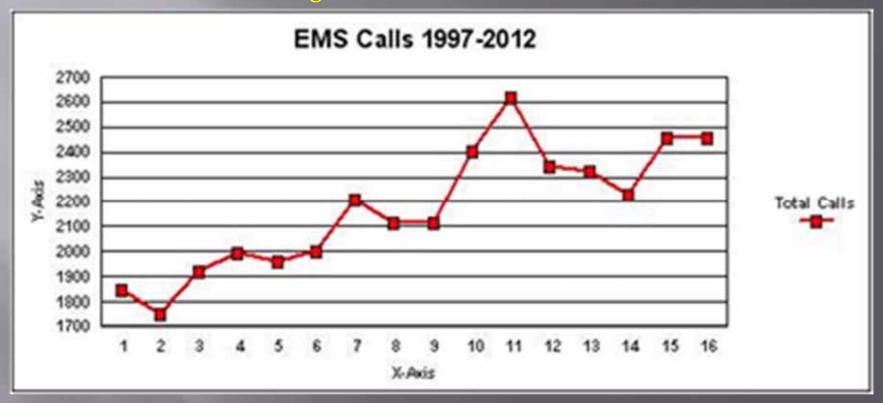


Year	Claims Paid*	Reported Accidents
2008	\$159,823.53	31
2009	\$42,798.01	15
2010	\$206,348.57	22
2011	\$44,687.75	16
2012	\$71,729.00	16

\*Claims Paid does not include future costs for any open claims.

#### Fire/EMS

The Fire and EMS Departments were merged in 2012 and employees were cross trained to perform both functions, providing more trained employees for fire and medical emergencies for less cost.



The EMS/Fire department responded to 2,447 medical calls in 2012. This includes 1,645 emergency calls, and 800 non-emergency calls. 1,810 calls were in the City limits and 360 calls were outside the City limits. There were 288 out of town transfers. The average response time to a call in 2012 was 3.64 minutes, which is improved over last year's response time of 5.08 minutes. This department generated \$553,026.27 in revenue in 2012.

# Fire/EMS Department

- The EMS/Fire Department responded to 626 fire calls in 2012:
  - 38 structure fires (27 homes)
  - 8 trash fires
  - 18 brush/grass fires
  - 13 vehicle fires
  - 53 false alarms.
  - 232 medical assists.
  - 157 hazardous materials or other hazardous responses
- Completed 2,167 man hours of fire and EMS continuing education training.
- Fire Prevention
  - Made 1,867 student contacts for fire prevention education
  - Performed 97 fire prevention inspections
  - Installed 68 home smoke detectors in 28 homes and 21 home CO2 detectors in 21 homes.



# Fire/EMS Department

- The Independence Fire Department held its 2<sup>nd</sup> Open House in 2012 and with the help and support of the other City Emergency Services and the Montg. Co. Sheriff's Department had a very successful event.
- Firefighter Andy Richmond was awarded "Firefighter of the Year" honors at the local level by the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization.



## Building

In 2012 23 residential, 22 commercial and industrial building permits were issued which reflected \$945,995 in new residential and \$7,189,473 in commercial and industrial construction. There were 122 electrical and plumbing permits issued totaling \$1,530.

- Conducted 12 fire suppression equipment inspections at the library, Memorial Hall, Penn Terrace and group home at 920 E. Cedar.
- Performed 39 rental inspections for the Housing Authority of which almost 75% failed the first inspection.

• Performed 9 inspections from rental housing complaints, all of which were substantiated.

Collected permit fees	\$33,713	
Total building valuation	\$8,136,923	
Total permits issued	167	

### Condemnations/ Code Enforcement

- 15 structures (13 residential) were condemned in 2012.
- 2 condemned structures were removed by the City.
- 4 condemned structures were removed by property owners.
- 3 condemned structures were repaired by property owners and removed from the condemnation list.
- Sent out 449 weed nuisance notices which resulted in 194 work orders for City crews to mow tall grass. 114 notices of other types of environmental violations were issued which include junk cars, trash, etc.







#### Police

- During 2012 the police department received 14,849 calls through dispatch. A total of 2,941 incident and crime reports were taken by police personnel. 276 vehicle accidents were investigated. 753 misdemeanor and felony arrests were made.
- Worked with local school district with school resource officer estimated time spent in schools at 1,250 hours.
- Dispatchers were certified to perform Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD).
- On going crime prevention efforts, the department performed numerous house watches and extra patrols.

Harry Smith was appointed as Police Chief. Lisa Helkenberg was appointed as Police Captain. This is the first female police captain for the City of Independence.

#### **Police**

- Installed security camera on 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor hallway of City Hall Building -- 6/12
- Replaced security camera on South door entrance at City Hall Building - 6/12
- Explored possible grants to install fencing around the gun range at the Airport - 7/12
- Explored grant funding to install a surveillance camera at the airport gun range – 3/12
- Reduced the Police Department vehicle fleet to an acceptable number 4/12
- Upgraded and replaced 4 police vehicles 4/12
- Provided officers for Neewollah events 10/12



#### **Animal Control**





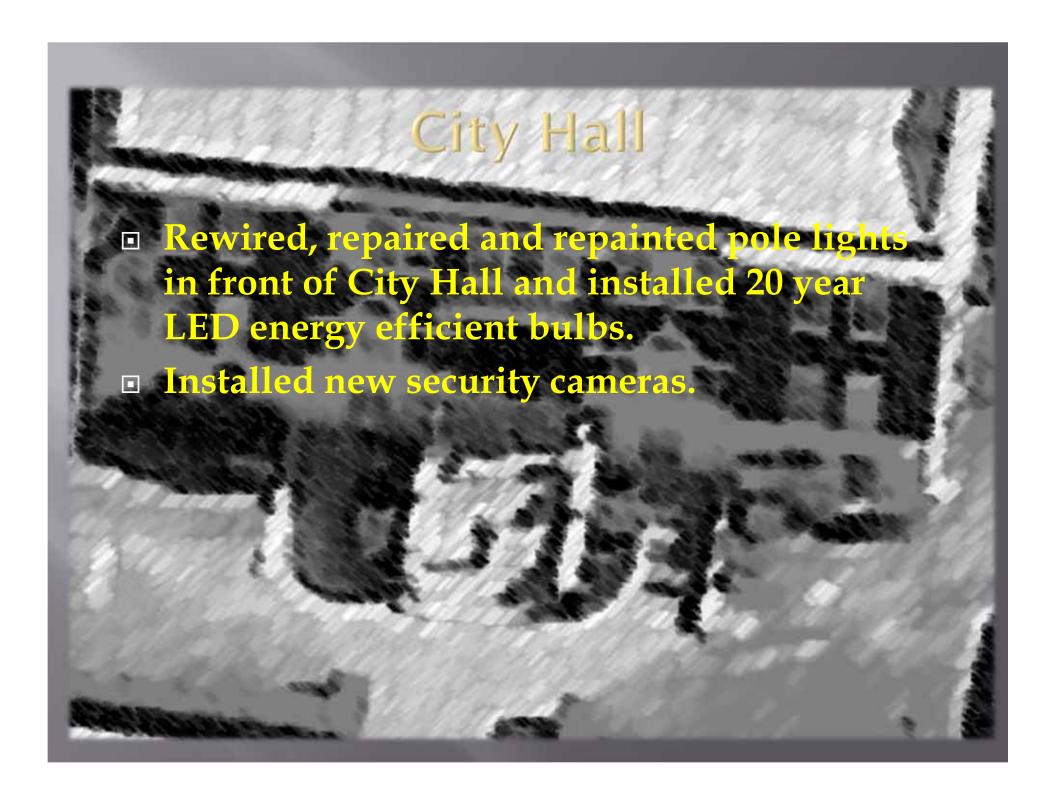
	Dogs	Cats	Total
Citations Issued	43	0	43
Taken to AWOL By City	223	181	404
Taken to AWOL by Public	186	116	302
Adopted	156	107	263
Reclaimed	119	23	142
Euthanized	134	167	301
Low Cost Spay/Neuter Program	266	258	524

AWOL processed 706 animals in 2012, 57% were adopted or reclaimed (67% of the dogs and 44% of the cats). The AWOL facilities consist of 16 cat cages and 16 dog runs, each cage can accommodate up to 2 adult animals.

# City Clerk, Tony Royse



Replaced City Clerk's Office payment counter with ergonomic desk systems. The old cabinets were reutilized in the Garden House.



# Finance/City Clerk's Office

City Licenses	982*	\$24,897.00
CMB/Alcohol Licenses	23	\$7,250.00
Pet Licenses (437 dogs/32 cats/6 pit bulls)	475	\$1,729.50
Utility Payments	52,248	\$3,231,573
Rummage Sale Permits	1,322	\$3,305
Meters read per month	4,354	N/A

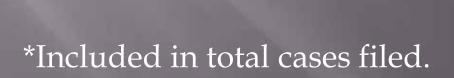
\*This is almost twice the amount of City licenses in 2011 (448) thanks to the increased efforts of the Public Safety Director, Building Inspector and Clerk's office.

• Implemented purchase order system to better control and monitor expenditures.

The Finance/City Clerk's Office collected \$25,100,000 in revenue in 2012.

# Municipal Court

- 816 cases filed
  - 62 trials
  - 528 found guilty
  - 32 diversions
  - 181 dismissed
- 25 DUI's filed\*
  - 10 trials
  - 4 found guilty
  - 10 diversions
  - 16 dismissals
- \$144,107.07 in revenue from court fines







# Housing April Nutt, Housing Director



- Completed the Martin Estates Single Family Home Tax
   Credit Project and Rent Up.
- Purchased 5 homes and 3 lots across the street from Penn
   Terrace for removal and clean up.
- Received a \$100,000 Tenant Based Rental Assistance Grant to assist approximately 80 families annually.
- Authored and received in conjunction with MCAC a \$140,000 Moderate Income Housing Grant for the purpose of constructing 6 single –family homes for sale with Tom Carlson developer.
- Managed 152 rental units.
- Updated IHA policies and procedures. (On going)
- Pursue housing grants. (On going)
- April served as chair of Pride Committee and organized Earth Day Activities.



# Public Works Mike Passauer, Public Works Director

- Airport
- Engineering/GIS
- Memorial Hall
- Sanitation
- Street



#### Airport

- In 2012 200,978 gallons of fuel were sold by the City (63,750 gallons of av gas and 137,228 gallons of jet fuel) which generated \$680,820.17.
- Relocation of Runway 22 threshold requiring extension of Runway 4/22, construction of Taxiway D and Taxiway C.
- Completed Construction of Taxiway D & extension of runway 4/22.
- Updated ACIP Data Sheets. These are projects thru 2015.
- Implemented pavement maintenance plan.
- Plans & Specs for Rehab of taxiway C & Extension of 4/22 to Taxiway C. This project will be let in March or April of 2013.
- Applied for funding for heights and hazard plan.
- Applied for funding to reconfigure electrical for taxiways and runways.
- Applied for KDOT grant for updating terminal.
- Purchased new mower and replaced tractor with one that could accommodate a wider brush hog.
- Stopped the process of allowing private pilots to charge fuel to the City and required all credit accounts to be paid off.

# Engineering/GIS

- Traffic Study and Counts on N. Majestic, Taylor Road to Birdie
- Upgraded GIS Imagery to new 6 inch pixel area image.
- GIS maps for 2012.
- © Created storm spotter location map.
- Three story structure map for ISO audit.
- Created fire hydrant location map.
- Created traffic signal location map.
- Updated leaf collection map.
- Created FEMA flood plane map.
- Created USGS 10 ft. elevation map
- Created on system bridges map.
- Added historical city buildings layer to map
- Updated City boundary layer
- Updated residency map for public safety employees.
- GIS and Pictometry training (ongoing).
- Updated water and sewer line books (ongoing).
- Updated zoning maps (ongoing).





# Memorial Hall

In 2012 Memorial Hall generated \$39,292.50 in rental income.

	CHARGE	N/C	GRAND TOTALS	Neewollah
Civic Center	59	36	95	5
Kitchen	34	34	68	5
Gallery	11	104	115	5
Veteran's Rm	30	104	134	0
American Legion	7	31	38	0
VFW	1	3	4	0
Patriot	4	6	10	0
Spanish	1	0	1	0
Green Room	4	3	7	3
Lobby	10	33	43	18
Auditorium	9	31	40	18
TOTAL USAGE	170	385	555	54

#### Sanitation

- The sanitation department picked up an estimated 7,552 tons of garbage in 2012.
- 100 8-yard residential dumpsters were set.
- 32 leaf work orders were picked up.
- 35 appliance work orders were picked up.
- 220 furniture work orders.
- 48 miscellaneous work orders.
- Participated in downtown cleanup, Neewollah clean up and provided dumpster for earth day.

This department generated \$1,022,980.99 in revenue in 2012.

#### Street

- Repaired 4 storm drain lids.
- Removed 7 large trees on City rightsof-way.
- Completed 1,257 work orders for brush pickup.
- Repaired 15' of 10" storm drain in alley at 9<sup>th</sup> and Poplar.
- Cleaned 700′ of ditch line.
- Performed leaf pickup.
- Performed ice and snow removal.
- Hung seasonal banners and lights.
- Installed street & traffic signs.
- Participated in downtown cleanup and Neewollah cleanup.
- Assisted other departments as needed.
- Purchased new mower (\$10,500) and took over responsibility to mow flood lots (previously contracted at a cost of \$34,314 in 2011).



# Park, Zoo and Cemetery Barb Beurskens, Park & Zoo Director



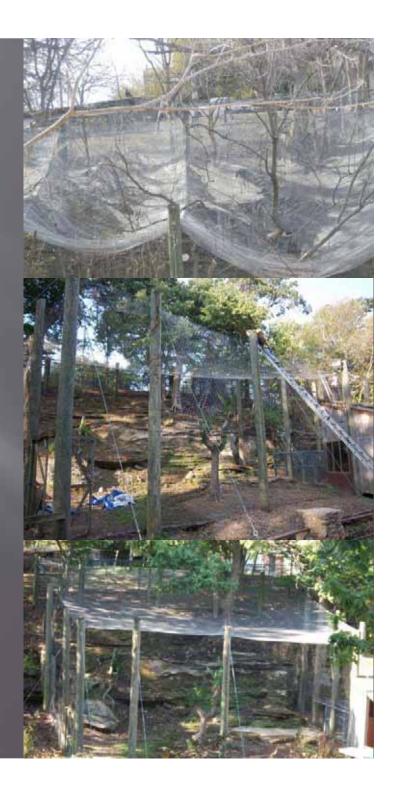
# 2012 year end Cemetery

- 126 Burials
- 38 Cremations
- 74 Lot Sales
- 75 Re-leveling of Stones
- 1,316 Spaces left (Est.)
- Cutting trees at Park and Cemetery
- Dirt Work at Park and Cemetery

- Personal Lockers for Cemetery Crew
- Reglazed and painted windows on office.
- Filled in old rabbit pen at park
- Mowing cemetery, park, skateboard park and trailer park.

#### Park Department

- Cleared tree's & brush from Ravine, Cougar and Eagle Exhibits.
  - Worked on all year.
  - Cost: Labor
- Removed old zoo mesh with help from Street Department and replaced it with woven wire zoo mesh which was installed by Net's Unlimited out of Arizona.
  - Completion Date: August/2012
  - Cost: Paid for by FORPAZ
- Cut down 2 large oak trees by Mutjac pen and trimmed several more around the exhibit.
  - Completion Date: March/2012
  - Cost: Labor
- Purchased tranquilizer gun for the zoo and employees were trained by Police Department employees.
  - Purchased: March 30, 2012
  - Cost: \$415.51



- Caught 35 Aoudad's (21 males and 14 females).
   Sold to Joe Hedrick.
  - Completion Date: April 15, 2012
  - Sold for \$3,500.00 and saved over \$3,000 in feed bills.
- Purchased Shear's and sheared 4 Llamas.
  - Completion Date: June 8, 2012
  - Cost: \$414.00
- Electrical outlets install in Steven's Building and raised electrical line between shop and donkey exhibit to code.
  - Completion Date: September 25, 2012
  - Cost: \$691.64
- Build up duck pond island w/large rock and installed new river rock.
  - Completion Date: July 12, 2012
  - Cost: \$50.00 Had volunteer's help with project

- Refurbished 8 benches in the Park & Zoo.
  - Completion Date: April/2012
  - Cost: \$100.00
- Installed cabinets in the Garden House
  - Completion Date: July/2012
  - Cost: Labor
- Installed casters on all electrical boxes.
  - Completion Date: October/2012
  - Cost: \$348.20
- Started with new signage in the zoo.
  - Completion Date: On going
  - Cost: \$75.00
- Painted Lions with volunteers.
- Purchased new fountain for Duck Pond.
  - Completion Date: 10/2012
  - Cost: \$1,299.00





FORPAZ membership drive at the Downtown Block Party

# Completed Carousel Project

 Soda blasted all carousel horses – Helt's Sandblasting – Cherryvale.

• Completion Date: January/2012

• Cost: \$1,600.00

Re-upholstered benches - Cindy Allison

Completion Date: January/2012

• Cost: \$442.10

Painted all horses and carousel benches w/help of several artist in the community (Sharon Viets, Louise Woodward, Nick Crim, Vicki Gordon, Rachel Unruh, Eenie Fitzpatrick and Rachel Lyon).

• Completion Date: May/2012

• Cost: \$350.00 – All paint and labor donated.

Painted and repaired carousel lights

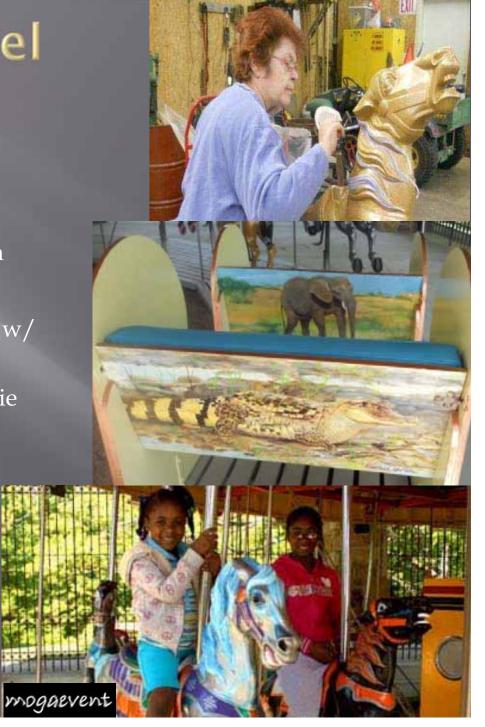
Completion Date: March/2012

• Cost: \$200.00

Organized and planned Carousel Appreciation Dinner at the Carousel.

Completion Date: May 9, 2012

• Cost: \$200.00



# Golf Course Clean Up

- Cleaned out the two ponds with the help of the Knights of Columbus.
- Filled in the two ponds with dirt.
- Started installing fountain
- Removed 9 Trees.
- Transferred several grasses to other parts of the park and zoo.
- Repaired sprinkler system.
- Painted the Pumpkin.







- Replaced three 4-H Buildings Roofs
- Constructed Park and Zoo Sign at 5<sup>th</sup> & Oak with funding from the Convention and Visitors Bureau Funds.

#### BEFORE



# Tennis Grand stand roof

AFTER



# Cleaned up basement of shelter house

BEFORE

AFTER





### Cleaned up shops

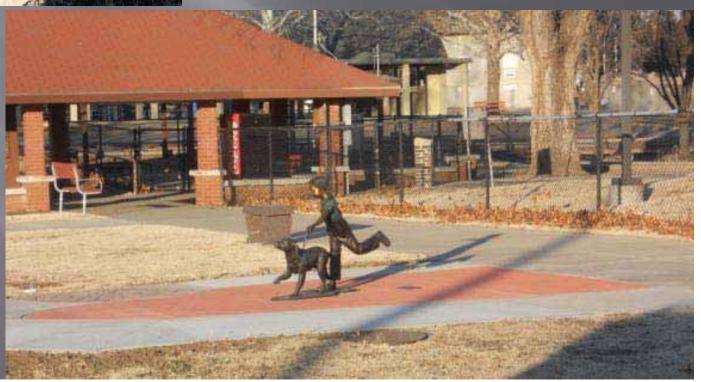
- Cleaned up shops and sheds.
- Cleaned up piles of scrap metal and sold approximately 5 Tons to Southside Recycling.
- Totaled received \$950.60





### Sculpture Garden Sidewalk repair & statue

This statue was donated by a family and had been stored in the shop for the last few years.



# Removed vines off playground restroom partition walls

BEFORE

**AFTER** 





### Activities in the Park

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Park Opening
- Radio Disney
- Carousel Appreciation
  Dinner
- Relay for Life
- 4th of July
- 4H Fair
  Indy Back to School
- Yona Julian Fun Run

- **German fest**
- Neewollah Fun Run
- Neewollah Fun Run
- Neewollah BandCompetition
- Flu Shot Drive
- Amazon Company
  Picnic
  - Southwire Company Picnic
  - Blake Bertie 5K Run

### Activities - page 2



- FORPAZ 4 Seasons Photo Zoofari Contest.
- High School Community Service Day.
- Organized a walk thru the Park & Zoo for City Staff,
   Commissioners, Park Board & FORPAZ Members.
- Christmas in the Park Helped organized and stage.



### **School Visits**

- 35+ School Visits from surrounding areas
  - including:
- Lincoln Elementary Parsons
- George Nettels Elementary Pittsburg
- West Elk Elementary
- Altamont Elementary
- Caney Valley Elementary
- Tyro Christian School
- Welch Elementary
- St. Johns Elementary- Bartlesville, OK
- Many more.



### Weddings



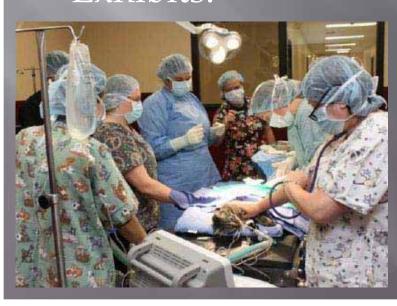
 11 Weddings Scheduled at the Fountain or Gazebo area.

# Talks given to various organizations

- Rachel presented the Tree Plan for downtown to the Chamber Members, Main Street Members and City Commission several times.
- Rachel and Barb gave talks to the Rotary, Optimist and Lions Clubs regarding projects at the park.
- Kansas Department of Health & Environment did a video regarding the Waste Tire Mulch Grant Project.
- Rachel gave a talk to the AARP Group regarding park projects.
- Katie and Barb had a booth promoting the park at the It's all About Kid's Program at Independence Community College.
- Rachel gave a presentation to the Leadership Class for possible project at the Park.

### Vet Tech Program

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Year in the Program
- 11 Students in Program
- Learned and helped with Zoo Activities.
- Helped designed the Wood Duck and Spider Monkey Exhibits.









Veterinary Technology Graduates of 2012

Our first graduates!

### Park Rentals and Usage

In 2012 Park facility rentals generated \$17,035 and the concession stand generated \$1,106.09.

Facility	Number of Rentals
Entire 4-H Building	90
4-H Small Dining/Kitchen	20
4-H Large Room Only	17
East Open Building	39
Middle Open Building	24
Shelter House	119
Lone Chief	72
Concession House	46
Rock Kitchen	45
Band Shell	3
Oval (German Fest)	1
Total	476



Does not include free events; such as Montgomery County 4-H Fair, Neewollah chili cook off, charity fun runs, relay for life, FORPAZ park opening, Municipal Band concerts & Library Book Sale, tennis practice, etc.

### Park rides for 2012

TRAIN 31,057 RIDES \$ 7,764.25

GOLF 12,263 RIDES \$12,263.00

CAROUSEL 45,735 RIDES \$ 2,286.75

TOTAL 89,055 RIDES \$22,314.00



## Utilities Terry Lybarger, Utilities Director



### Sewer Collection/Treatment

- Cleaned 82,009′ linear feet of sewer lines.
- Painted 5 positive displacement blowers' enclosures.

An <u>estimated</u> 439,630,000 gallons of wastewater were treated at the wastewater treatment plant in 2012. \$1,823,420.92 in revenue was generated from sewer fees in 2012.



### Water Distribution

- Main & 12<sup>th</sup> 315′ of 8″ PVC.
- Sycamore to Pine, 819′ of 6″ PVC.
- Pine to Laurel, 1,258′ of 6″
- 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, on Pine, 1,163′ of 6″
- Replaced 2,403 residential water meters, which represents over half of the residential water meters.
- Replaced 62 commercial water meters.
  - Relocated hospital meter from inside basement to outside.
- Performed 1,502 utility locates.
- Replaced 7 valves identified as defective in the water distribution system.
- Repaired 147 main line breaks.
- Performed annual fire hydrant flushing and testing program.
- Participated in Neewollah cleanup.

#### Water Treatment

- Cleaned and drained all basins at the plant.
- Painted chemical storage bins, all railing around basins and low service railing and stairs, and mower shed.
- Cleaned north sludge pit.
- Installed two new check valves at 17<sup>th</sup> street pump station and put back in service (July).
- Replaced level indicators in fire cells at airport pump station.
- Installed pressure regulators on lime machine.
- Installed new hydraulic pump on clarifier and rebuilt one planetary gear drive. Changed to royal purple oil.
- Replaced grit elevator chain on east lime machine.
- Installed chemical injector quill on Liquid Ammonium system.
- Replaced four inch butterfly discharge valve on low service pump station.
- Completed Risk Management Plan.

#### Water Treatment

- Cut brush around low service and high service pump stations.
- Installed new signs on all perimeter fencing.
- Changed out all radios to low band, and upgrade SCADA system to accept.
- Replaced all chlorine lines and rebuilt chlorine regulators. As risk management requires.
- Repaired or patched concrete sidewalk between basins.
- Rebuilt both lime pumps.
- Started replacing all 110 outlets in pump room to GFI receptacles.
- Labeled all chemical feed lines in basement.
- Replaced control panel on the emergency diesel pump at high service pump station.

### Water Treatment



The water treatment plant treated 603,789,000 gallons of water in 2012. The City was in compliance with all water quality treatment standards. 511,831,440 gallons were pumped into the City to be sold which generated \$1,384,663.56 in revenue.